



Massachusetts Department of Correction

Quarterly Report on the Status of Prison Overcrowding, First Quarter of 1999

Submitted in Compliance with Chapter 799
Section 21 of the Acts of 1985

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1999 First Quarter Report

Section Twenty-one of Chapter 799 of the Acts of 1985 directs the Commissioner of Correction to report quarterly on the status of overcrowding in state and county facilities. This statute calls for the following information:

Such report shall include, by facility, the average daily census for the period of the report and the actual census on the second and the last days of the report period. Said report shall also contain such information for the previous twelve months and a comparison to the rated capacity of such facility.

This report presents the required statistics for the first quarter of 1999.

This report was prepared by Hollie Matthews Hoover of the Research and Planning Division, and is based on daily count sheets prepared by the Classification Division.

1999 First Quarter Report

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Technical Notes, 1996 to Present¹

- The official capacity or custody level designation for each facility can change for a number of reasons, e.g. expansion of facility beds, decrease of facility beds due to fire, or changes in contracts with vendors. In all tables the capacity and custody level reflects the status at the end of the reporting period. The design capacity is reported for correctional facilities in Tables 1 through 6.
- On November 15, 1996, one hundred new modular beds were added to MCI Concord, increasing its design capacity to 614. Ninety-six modular beds were also added to MCI Norfolk, increasing its total to 1,084 beds. Pondville Correctional Center was reclassified from Custody Level 3/2 to Custody Level 3.
- Two hundred and forty-three new modular beds were added to Middlesex (Billerica) House of Correction on November 15, 1996, increasing its total to 874 beds, and the Middlesex county total to 1,035 beds.
- Due to changes in the Massachusetts General Law, DOC consolidated one unit at the Bridgewater Treatment Center and back-filled with general population inmates. These design capacity beds were placed on-line November 8, 1996 and first appeared on the November 12, 1996 daily count sheet. Three hundred additional beds were placed on-line during the third quarter of 1997.
- Due to a DOC policy modification, the security level of MCI-Shirley (Min) was changed from Security Level 3/2 to Security Level 3 during the first quarter of 1996 .
- Where relevant, the population figures for all facilities include both male and female inmates except as shown at Lancaster.
- State inmates housed in the Hampshire County contract program are included in the county population tables, as are all other state inmates housed in county facilities.
- Longwood Treatment Center is a specialized DOC facility which houses primarily individuals incarcerated for operating under the influence of alcohol. Because the inmates are predominantly county sentenced inmates, the inmate count and bed capacity are also included in Tables 3 and 4.
- Beginning with the second quarter of 1998 quarterly report, the following county correctional facilities are presented individually: Bristol Dartmouth, Bristol Ash Street, David R. Nelson Correctional Addiction Center, and Bristol Pre-Release in Bristol County; Essex Middleton and Essex Lawrence Correctional Alternative Center in Essex County; Middlesex Cambridge and Middlesex Billerica in Middlesex County; Norfolk Braintree, Norfolk Dedham, and Norfolk Contract in Norfolk County. Beginning with the third quarter of 1998 report, facilities for Suffolk and Hampden counties are presented individually.
- Nashua Street inmates housed at other facilities are reported in the counts for the facilities in which they are in custody.
- On October 22, 1997, Eastern Massachusetts Correctional Alcohol Center (EMCAC) was renamed the David R. Nelson Correctional Addiction Center (DRNCAC).
- The Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center, a security level 6 facility, was added to the Department of Correction count sheet on November 3, 1998. The facility began housing offenders on November 6, 1998. The average daily population in Table 2 is based on the previous twelve months. Since SBCC was populated for only two of the twelve months, the figures in Table 2 for this facility are skewed.

¹ For technical notes prior to 1996, please refer to previous quarterly reports.

- On April 18, 1995, new security level designations were established according to 103 DOC 101 Correctional Institutions/Custody Levels policy which states:

Custody Levels:

- **Level One.** The least restrictive in the department and is reserved only for those inmates who are at the end of their sentence and have been identified as posing little to no threat to the community. Supervision is minimal and indirect.

- **Level Two.** A custody level in which both design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of restoring to the inmate maximum responsibility and control of their own behavior and actions prior to their release. Direct supervision of these inmates is not required, but intermittent observation may be appropriate under certain conditions. Inmates within this level may be permitted to access the community unescorted to participate in programming to include, but not limited to, work release, educational release, etc.

- **Level Three.** A custody level in which both the design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of returning to the inmate a greater sense of personal responsibility and autonomy while still providing for supervision and monitoring of behavior and activity. Inmates within this security level are not considered a serious risk to the safety of staff, inmates or to the public. Program participation is mandated and geared toward their potential reintegration into the community. Access to the community is limited and under constant direct staff supervision.

- **Level Four.** A custody level in which both the design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of restoring to the inmate some degree of responsibility and control of their own behavior and actions, while still insuring the safety of staff and inmates. Design/construction is generally characterized by high security parameters and limited use of internal physical barriers. Inmates at this level have demonstrated the ability to abide by rules and regulations and require intermittent supervision. However, behavior in the community, i.e., criminal sentence and/or the presence of serious outstanding legal matters indicate the need for some control and for segregation from the community. Job and program opportunities exist for all inmates within the perimeter of the facility.

- **Level Five.** A custody level in which design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the need to provide maximum external and internal control and supervision of inmates. Inmates accorded to this status may present an escape risk or pose a threat to other inmates, staff, or the orderly running of the institution, however, at a lesser degree than those at level 6. Supervision remains constant and direct. Through an inmates willingness to comply with institutional rules and regulations, increased job and program opportunities exist.

- **Level Six.** A custody level in which both design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the need to provide maximum external and internal control and supervision of inmates primarily through the use of high security parameters and extensive use of internal physical barriers and check points. Inmates accorded this status present serious escape risks or pose serious threats to themselves, to other inmates, to staff, or the orderly running of the institution. Supervision of inmates is direct and constant. Inmates are confined to their cells at all times, except when they are removed for authorized activities. Inmates within their status, when removed from their cell, are typically under escort and in restraints.

Abbreviations

AC	- Addiction Center	OSCC	- Old Colony Correctional Center
ADP	- Average Daily Population	OUI	- Operating Under the Influence
ATU	- Awaiting Trial Unit	PPREP	- Pre-Parole Residential Environmental Phase Program
CRS	- Contract Residential Services Includes Charlotte House, and Houston House	PRC	- Pre-Release Center
DDU	- Departmental Disciplinary Unit	SBCC	- Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center
DOC	- Department of Correction	SECC	- Southeastern Correctional Center
DRNCAC	David R. Nelson Correctional Addiction Center	SDPTC	- Sexually Dangerous Person Treatment Center
DSU	- Departmental Segregation Unit	SMCC	- South Middlesex Correctional Center (formerly SMPRC)
HOC	- House of Correction	SH	- State Hospital
LCAC	- Lawrence Correctional Alternative Center	TC	- Treatment Center (Longwood)
NECC	- Northeastern Correctional Center		
NCCI	- North Central Correctional Institution at Gardner		

Table 1 provides the DOC figures for the first quarter of 1999. As this table indicates, the DOC population (excluding Bridgewater SH, SDPTC, AC, Longwood TC, and county inmates at the Mass. Boot Camp) increased by 104 inmates from the first day of the first quarter to the last day of the quarter. At the end of the quarter, the DOC operated with 10,221 inmates in the system, and the average daily population was 10,160 with a design capacity of 8,130. Thus, the DOC operated at 125 percent of design capacity.

Population in DOC Facilities, January 2, 1999 to March 31, 1999

Custody Level/ Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Custody Level 6					
Cedar Junction	567	563	567	633	90%
SBCC	737	769	755	1,024	72%
Framingham-ATU	120	111	127	64	188%
Custody Level 5					
OCCC	730	732	734	488	150%
Custody Level 4					
Concord	1,352	1,343	1,358	614	220%
Framingham	504	499	511	388	130%
Norfolk	1,494	1,496	1,490	1,084	138%
NCCI	962	962	967	568	169%
SECC	308	307	306	456	68%
Bay State	294	294	294	266	111%
Mass. Boot Camp	79	100	72	128	62%
Shirley-Medium	1,092	1,070	1,091	720	152%
*Bridgewater SDPTC	348	347	350	345	101%
Sub-Total	8,587	8,593	8,622	6,778	127%
Custody Level 3					
Plymouth	177	167	185	151	117%
NECC	234	210	248	150	156%
SECC-Minimum	95	87	93	100	95%
Shirley-Minimum	307	296	312	403	76%
Pondville	183	185	182	100	183%
Custody Level 3/2					
Lancaster-Male	123	122	124	94	131%
Lancaster-Female	60	61	60	59	102%
SMCC	193	199	189	125	154%
Sub-Total	1,372	1,327	1,393	1,182	116%
Custody Level 2					
Boston State	98	98	97	55	178%
Park Drive	50	49	49	50	100%
Hodder House	26	23	21	35	74%
Custody Level 1					
Charlotte	5	4	14	15	33%
Houston House	8	10	8	15	53%
PPREP	14	13	17	n.a	n.a
Sub-Total	201	197	206	170	118%
Total	10,160	10,117	10,221	8,130	125%
Bridgewater SH	354	348	352	227	156%
Bridgewater SDPTC	177	177	176	216	82%
Bridgewater AC	82	52	107	214	38%
Longwood TC	136	143	133	125	109%
Sub-Total	749	720	768	782	96%
Grand Total	10,909	10,837	10,989	8,912	122%
Houses of Correction	640	671	591	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	23	23	23	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Contract	250	252	248	n.a.	n.a.

(* See Technical Notes)

Table 2 provides the DOC figures for the previous twelve months - i.e., for the period January 2, 1998 to December 31, 1998. These figures indicate that the DOC population increased by 158, or 2 percent, over this twelve month period (excluding Bridgewater SH, SDPTC, AC, Longwood TC, and county inmates at the Mass. Boot Camp), from 10,015 in January, 1998 to 10,173 in December, 1998.

Population in DOC Facilities, January 2, 1998 to December 31, 1998					
Custody Level/ Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Custody Level 6					
Cedar Junction	707	813	561	633	112%
*SBCC	130	n.a	796	1024	13%
Framingham-ATU	109	102	58	64	170%
Custody Level 5					
OCCC	718	700	733	488	147%
Custody Level 4					
Concord	1,346	1,298	1,346	614	219%
Framingham	511	495	553	388	132%
Norfolk	1,501	1,514	1,499	1,084	138%
NCCI	940	928	965	568	165%
SECC	723	809	309	456	159%
Bay State	295	294	294	266	111%
Mass. Boot Camp	109	110	99	128	85%
Shirley-Medium	1,099	1,102	1,095	720	153%
*Bridgewater SDPTC	348	335	349	345	101%
Sub-Total	8,536	8,500	8,657	6,778	126%
Custody Level 3					
Plymouth	171	171	166	151	113%
NECC	216	206	209	150	144%
SECC-Minimum	92	88	89	100	92%
Shirley-Minimum	319	292	291	403	79%
Pondville	177	181	182	100	177%
Custody Level 3/2					
Lancaster-Male	119	116	122	94	127%
Lancaster-Female	56	52	62	59	95%
SMCC	194	196	196	125	155%
Sub-Total	1,344	1,302	1,317	1,182	114%
Custody Level 2					
Boston State	94	98	98	55	171%
Park Drive	49	48	50	50	98%
Hodder House	27	33	23	35	77%
Custody Level 1					
Charlotte	8	8	4	15	53%
Houston House	11	13	9	15	73%
PPREP	10	13	15	n.a	n.a
Sub-Total	199	213	199	170	117%
Total	10,079	10,015	10,173	8,130	124%
Bridgewater SH	352	367	348	227	155%
Bridgewater SDPTC	184	189	177	216	85%
Bridgewater AC	97	103	57	214	45%
Longwood TC	135	135	144	125	108%
Sub-Total	768	794	726	782	98%
Grand Total	10,847	10,809	10,899	8,912	122%
Houses of Correction	708	738	672	n.a	n.a
Federal Prisons	25	27	23	n.a	n.a
Inter-State Contract	349	376	252	n.a	n.a

(* See Technical Notes)

Table 3 presents the county figures for the first quarter of 1999. The county population decreased by 28 inmates from the second day of the first quarter to the last day of the quarter. At the end of the quarter, the county system operated with 12,298 inmates, with an average daily population of 12,423 in facilities with a total design capacity of 8,356. Thus, the county system operated at 149 percent of design capacity.

**Population in County Correctional Facilities by County,
January 2, 1999 to March 31, 1999**

Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	266	252	260	110	242%
Berkshire	223	218	222	116	192%
Bristol	1,069	1,037	1,071	666	161%
Dukes	33	35	39	19	174%
Essex	1,279	1,290	1,284	635	201%
Franklin	149	150	150	63	237%
Hampden	1,792	1,835	1,707	1,303	138%
Hampshire	226	220	215	248	91%
Middlesex	1,369	1,330	1,373	1,035	132%
Norfolk	628	605	624	379	166%
Plymouth	1,398	1,418	1,354	1,140	123%
Suffolk	2,543	2,503	2,554	1,599	159%
Worcester	1,262	1,237	1,266	790	160%
Longwood TC	136	143	133	125	109%
Mass. Boot Camp	49	53	46	128	38%
Total	12,422	12,326	12,298	8,356	149%

Table 4 presents the county figures for the first quarter of 1999. The following table presents a breakdown of specific counties, by facility.

**Population in County Correctional Facilities by Facility,
January 2, 1999 to March 31, 1999**

Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
<u>Bristol County</u>					
Bristol Ash Street	143	140	139	206	69%
Bristol Dartmouth	766	746	773	304	252%
Bristol DRNCAC	95	85	92	100	95%
Bristol Pre-Release	65	66	67	56	116%
<u>Essex County</u>					
Essex Middleton	1,070	1,102	1,076	500	214%
Essex LCAC	209	188	208	135	155%
<u>Hampden County</u>					
Hampden	1,654	1,695	1,569	1,178	140%
Hampden-OUI	138	140	138	125	110%
<u>Middlesex County</u>					
Middlesex Cambridge	270	243	251	161	168%
Middlesex Billerica	1,099	1,087	1,122	874	126%
<u>Norfolk County</u>					
Norfolk Dedham	517	493	515	302	171%
Norfolk Braintree	40	43	34	52	77%
Norfolk Contract	71	69	75	25	284%
<u>Suffolk County</u>					
Suffolk Nashua Street	640	625	633	453	141%
Suffolk South Bay	1,903	1,878	1,921	1,146	166%

Table 5 presents the county figures for the previous twelve months. These figures indicate that the county population increased by 384 inmates, or 3 percent over this twelve-month period, from 12,014 in January, 1998, to 12,398 in December, 1998.

**Population in County Correctional Facilities by County,
January 2, 1998 to December 31, 1998**

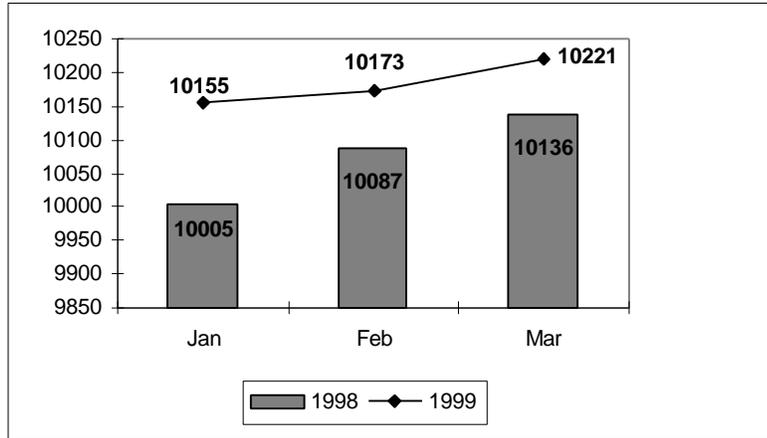
Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	253	255	252	110	230%
Berkshire	240	243	226	116	207%
Bristol	1,149	1,251	1,054	666	173%
Dukes	26	20	35	19	137%
Essex	1,347	1,344	1,302	635	212%
Franklin	142	139	146	63	225%
Hampden	1,835	1,736	1,841	1,303	141%
Hampshire	243	243	219	248	98%
Middlesex	1,429	1,371	1,343	1,035	138%
Norfolk	627	572	605	379	165%
Plymouth	1,275	1,098	1,418	1,140	112%
Suffolk	2,537	2,358	2,522	1,599	159%
Worcester	1,289	1,184	1,237	790	163%
Longwood TC	135	135	144	125	108%
Mass. Boot Camp	52	65	54	128	41%
Total	12,579	12,014	12,398	8,356	151%

Table 6 presents the county figures for the previous twelve months. The following table presents a breakdown of specific counties, by facility.

**Population in County Correctional Facilities by Facility,
January 2, 1998 to December 31, 1998**

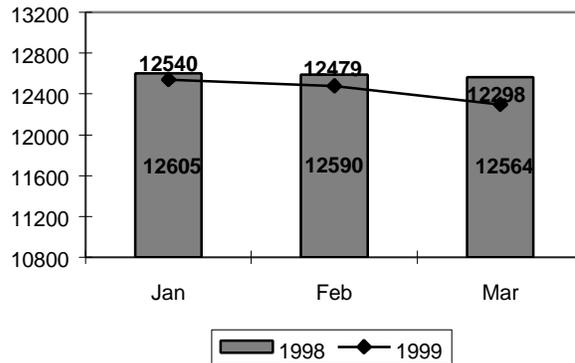
Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
<u>Bristol County</u>					
Bristol Ash Street	201	221	136	206	98%
Bristol Dartmouth	755	820	760	304	248%
Bristol DRNCAC	98	100	86	100	98%
Bristol Pre-Release	95	110	72	56	170%
<u>Essex County</u>					
Essex Middleton	1,111	1,128	1,113	500	222%
Essex LCAC	236	216	189	135	175%
<u>Hampden County</u>					
Hampden	1,696	1,593	1,701	1,178	144%
Hampden-OUI	139	143	140	125	111%
<u>Middlesex County</u>					
Middlesex Cambridge	257	221	244	161	160%
Middlesex Billerica	1,172	1,150	1,099	874	134%
<u>Norfolk County</u>					
Norfolk Dedham	507	461	488	302	168%
Norfolk Braintree	42	40	47	52	81%
Norfolk Contract	78	71	70	25	312%
<u>Suffolk County</u>					
Suffolk Nashua Street	660	605	632	453	146%
Suffolk South Bay	1,877	1,753	1,890	1,146	164%

Figure 1.
DOC Sentenced Population, First Quarters of 1998 and 1999



The graph above compares the DOC sentenced population for the first quarter in 1998 to that in 1999, by month. For January, 1999 the DOC population increased by 150 inmates (1%) compared with the same month of 1998; for February, the population increased by 86 inmates (1%) ; and for March, the population increased by 85 inmates, or 1 percent.

Figure 2.
HOC Population, First Quarters of 1998 and 1999



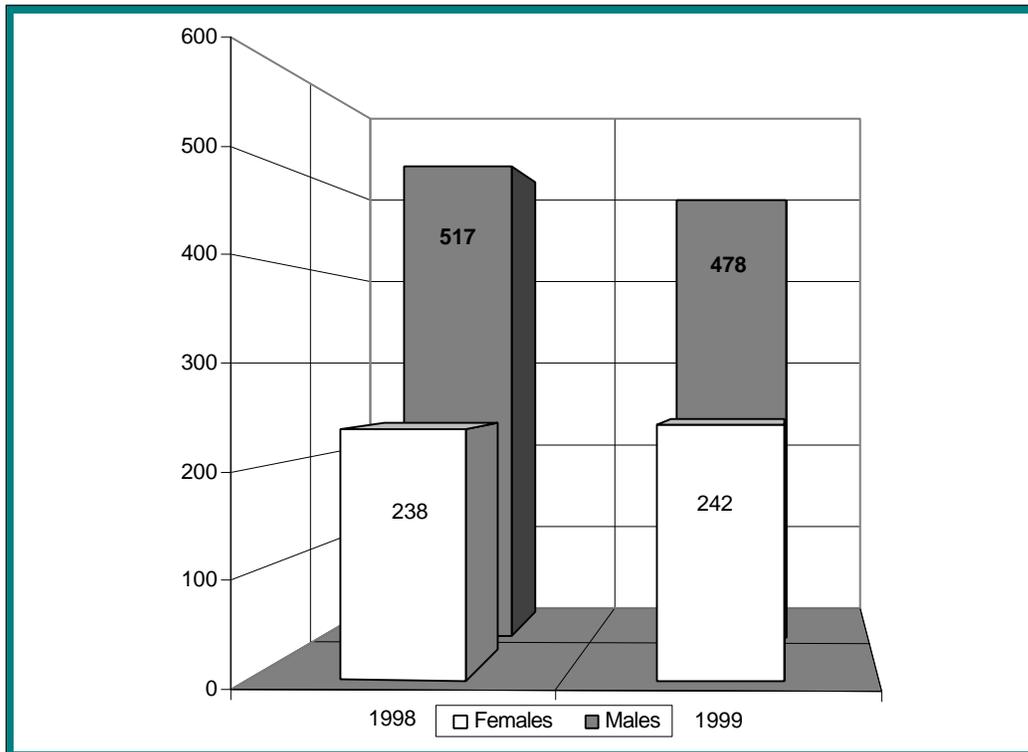
The graph above compares the HOC population for the first quarter in 1998 to that in 1999, by month. For January, 1999 the HOC population decreased by 65 inmates (-1%) compared with the same month of 1998; for February, the population decreased by 111 inmates (-1%) ; and for March, the population decreased by 266 inmates, or minus 2 percent.

Note: Data for Figures 1 and 2 were taken from the end of the month daily count sheet compiled by the Classification Division.

Table 7 provides statistics on new, criminally sentenced court commitments to the DOC for the first quarters of 1998 and 1999, by sex. Overall, there was a decrease of 35 commitments (-5%) for the first quarter of 1999 in comparison with the number of commitments during the first quarter 1998, from 755 to 720. Male commitments for 1999 decreased by 39, or minus 8 percent from 1998. Female commitments during the first quarter of 1999 increased by 4, or 2 percent compared to the number of commitments for the same time period in 1998.

Quarterly DOC New Court Commitment by Sex			
	1998	1999	Difference
Males			
First Quarter	517	478	-8%
Females			
First Quarter	238	242	2%
Total	755	720	-5%

Figure 3 provides a graphical representation of the number of new, criminally sentenced court commitments to the DOC during the first quarters of 1998 and 1999, by sex.



Note: Data for Table 7 and Figure 3 were obtained from the Inmate Tracking database maintained by the DOC.